

WHAT THE EDITOR SAYS

Public Ledger

DAILY, EXCEPT SUNDAY, BY
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IN HOC SIGNO VINCES.

A Word to Republicans.

The hope of the party lies in the expansion of a statesman like yourself. The Republicans who really or otherwise belong to our party Democratic paper to the election of one of our own party newspapers in future to the Republicans cause.

Unanimously subscribed to by the National Republican League.

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At the Homestead mills, where the great lockout of workmen occurred lately, the rate of wages is fixed by the price at which steel billets, a product of the works, sell. Increasing and decreasing in price concurrently with them, except that no reduction in rates of pay occurs after the billets have fallen to a certain point called the minimum. Since 1889 that minimum had been fixed at \$25 a ton. But the billets have sold as low as \$22 per ton or thereabouts during the last year, and the employers wanted to reduce the minimum to \$25 a ton. This was their offer to the men. It would be well to

If no other good result ensues from the Homestead incident, it will forever and rightly settle the fact that Pinkerton is dead and damned in this country.

Governor McKinley remarked recently that all the principles of the first Republican National platform are now incorporated in the laws of the land. And no party dares come forward and demand the repeal of any one of them.

It will be noted that after Mr. ERICK, Chairman of the Carnegie Company, presented to the Congressional Committee the table of wages paid at the Homestead mills, Mr. BOATNER of the committee, remarked: "Well, those are the highest wages I ever heard of."

SPEAKING of the effects of the McKinley Tariff on Canadian agriculture, a Canadian gentleman says: "In Ontario the horses and heavy trade have been all but destroyed," which simply means that American farmers and horse raisers are now supplying portions of our markets formerly supplied by Canadian farmers.

ONE of the officers of the Homestead works says: "There are men working in these mills who come down to work in their carriages and have their children in the train of the exploration of their slaves." These men are not poor users, but ordinary mechanics." Mr. GOMBERG, President of the American Federation of Labor, says of the strike: "The company has never before had to deal with such a fine class of workers. They are intelligent, and most of them are thrifty and own their own homes." There does not appear to have been much grinding down in this business; and yet 3,800 men who receive moderate wages are thrown out of employment in order that less than 300 of these princely-paid skilled workmen shall continue to draw all the way from \$144 to \$25 per month. No wonder Mr. BOATNER, the Democratic Louisiana member of the Congressional Committee, said: "Well, these are the highest wages I ever heard of."

Keep in mind that it does not involve a reduction of wages from what was agreed to by the men of 1889. Below is a table furnished by JOSEPH D. WILSON of Pittsburgh, an excellent authority, which shows how much the men could earn under the old scale when it was adopted in 1889, and when their wages was at the lowest point possible under the scale—i.e., fixed by the minimum price of billets, \$25 50; so the wages that the same men could earn now on the same minimum as a basis, and the wages they could earn under the minimum of \$23 proposed by the employers. The reverse of Mr. BOATNER, the Democratic Congressman, is conceivable in the presence of figures such as these:

	1890-92 scale.	Proposed 1892-93 scale.
	\$26 50 basis.	\$22 basis.
Heater, 12 hours	\$8.37	7.68
Heater, 32 hours	6.81	6.41
Heater, 1st helper	5.33	4.47
Heater, 2d helper	2.98	2.62
Craneman	3.29	2.37
Hull engineer	3.69	3.24
Hull helper	2.95	2.47
Sweeper	2.27	2.14
Shear tongsman	2.27	2.23
Stamper	2.07	2.37
Shear boy	1.59	1.41
Shear tableman	2.56	2.62
Buggymen	2.27	1.94
119-lb. plate mill	12 hours	8 hours
Roller	\$8.37	\$9.75
Scrubber	7.66	6.45
Tableman	6.65	5.40
Hopper	5.66	4.73
Sweeper, front	5.66	4.73
Sweeper, back	3.66	3.38
Shearman, 1st	8.66	7.48
Shearman, 2d	5.66	4.60
Leader, 1st	5.66	4.38
Leader, 2d	4.83	3.88
Heater	14.66	7.43
Heater's helper	10.00	4.05
Heater, 12 hours		3.52
Melter's helpers, 1st	\$3.60	\$3.76
Melter's helpers, 2d	3.00	2.66
Charging machine	3.00	2.29
Crane man, 1st	4.00	3.76
Ladleman, 2d	2.80	2.06
Pitman, 1st	3.40	3.76
Pitman, 2d	2.90	2.66
Pitman, 3d	2.83	2.45

This crown of St. Stephen, King of Hungary, 930-1015, is still preserved in the fortress palace of Bud-Pesth.

It is just 100 years since the Cornishman, William Murdoch, discovered that coal gas might be used as an illuminant.

The first oil well was discovered in Wayne county, Ky., in 1829, thirty years before the discovery of oil in Pennsylvania.

The most important Japanese holiday is the Feast of the Lanterns from July 16 to 18. It is the Japanese Decoration Day.

A number of ladies in London recently went through the ordeal of having a dress made on her own figure. She stood for three hours while the dressmaker wrought fifty yards of lace and embroidery, that could be cut into a gown for a woman of the size which had been attached to satisfy claims of the employees.

The longest canal in the world is the Chao Phraya, from the frontier of China to St. Petersburg. It measures all 4,472 miles.

The celebrated Rockwell's restaurant at Cleveland is closed and the contents have been attached to satisfy claims of the employees.

A TRADESMAN on Franklin street, Brooklyn, has a big sign strung across the front of his store bearing in large black letters the words, "Dealer in Green Goods." He sells vegetables.

The editor of a Southwestern religious publication recently received the following letter: "Dear Sirs—Your article on baptism expired. You desire to stop taking my paper. The only practical article it had for the last six months was a receipt for a sum of red ants, and on being tried of it I find it is not true. A paper that gives bad advice about red ants may be just as far off the track in its theology, and it only costs a dime."

AIR-BRAKES.

Old Style Couplers and Brakes on Freight Cars Doomed.

Ex-Railroad Commissioner Coffin on the Bill Before the Senate.

The Bill Has Passed the House and It is Predicted It Will Pass the Senate Before Adjournment—\$5,000 Killed or Trapped Every Year.

WASHINGTON, July 30.—HON. L. S. COFFIN, ex-railroad commissioner of Iowa, who is now in Washington working for the adoption by the senate of the bill to prohibit the use of hand brakes on freight cars coupling for the protection of life in the operation of freight trains says: "This bill must pass into law before adjournment of this session. The railroad employers will be held in the party delaying it responsible. The house has passed it, now let the senate do it."

"Will the public welcome the statement from indisputable authority made that the hand brake will give life, limb and shoulder more days in the prime of manhood than any other device in the history of man? Is it not better to have the facilities of railway travel and transportation? Is not this indeed a tragedy of tragedies that should put to shame the most backward civilization?"

"Think of the awful fact that a moment—say 30,000, yes 35,000, men—strong, brave, faithful public servants, serving the public more faithfully than any other class of wage workers, must have given up life, limb, or both in order to make every day of their lives indispensable work. At least the 50 percent of this slaughter of these men is clearly preventable."

"There are dangers at present more serious than service which human wisdom can not easily be eliminated, but these arising from the continuation of old style couplers and hand brakes on freight cars that cost at least one-half of all the casualties to the men can be avoided. This can be done by a simple vote for this congress to decide whether a beginning of this end of this wanton waste of life and limb shall be started."

The leading republicans in the senate are very enthusiastic for this bill, as it will do away with the use of the old hand coupler and enter the era of the all-interstate cars, and if there is time the bill will pass the senate within a few days. It is simply a question whether the house will force the senate to adjourn before the latter can act upon the bill.

LAX IMMIGRATION LAWS.

Who Brought Into the Court Room—Evidence That Many of Her Relatives Were Insane.

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., July 30.—The criminal court room was crowded with spectators Tuesday morning, awaiting developments in the trial of Alice Mitchell, accused of killing her husband.

It is rumored that a number of salacious deposition would be read, and a large number of ladies were present to await the incident of the trial.

Miss Mitchell looked as fresh as any girl of 20, though she had been awaiting the trial of Alice Mitchell, accused of killing her husband.

Miss Mitchell, looking as fresh as any girl of 20, though she had been awaiting the trial of Alice Mitchell, accused of killing her husband.

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Presidential Campaign of 1892!

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